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21 February 1974

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MEMORANDUM FOR:

THROUGH

SUBJECT

REQUIREMENT

: Search for a new GORIZONT Troposcatter Station
on the Yakutsk-Magadan GORIZONT Line, USSR: NSA/V24/R-175-74
(NPIC Project 340045)

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1. In response to the referenced requirement, a search centering on Yudoma-Krestovskaya (60-05N 139-52E) was performed to find indications of a new GORIZONT troposcatter station. Three troposcatter stations, Uts-Maya, Ynykchanskiy and Okhotsk, on the Yakutsk-Magadan GORIZONT line were also examined for changes in antenna types and/or antenna azimuths. All areas were covered by fair-to -good photography from late [redacted]

2. A search of the area defined by a 10-nautical mile (nm) radius centered on Yudoma-Krestovskaya revealed no indications of a troposcatter station. No significant activity was observed in the area except logging operations.

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3. Reanalysis of the troposcatter antenna types and their orientations at Okhotsk Troposcatter Station [redacted] confirmed that the original identification of four Type IIA antennas is accurate. Antenna orientations are [redacted] to Magadan and [redacted] to Ynykchanskiy. These orientations are nearly identical to those previously reported. Also, the antenna azimuth of the Okhotsk-Ynykchanskiy link ([redacted]) is identical to a computer-derived azimuth between these two locations.

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4. Reanalysis of the antenna types and their orientation was also accomplished at Ynykchanskiy Troposcatter Station West-northwest [redacted]. This reanalysis confirmed the updated description of two Type II and two Type IIA troposcatter antennas at this station. The Type II antennas are oriented on a azimuth of [redacted] to Ust-Maya Troposcatter Station [redacted] and the Type IIA antennas are oriented on a azimuth of 105 degrees to Okhotsk Troposcatter Station. Also, reanalysis of early photography indicates that no change in antenna types has occurred at this station. The original identification of four Type IIA antennas was based on extremely poor imagery. Type II and Type IIA antennas have always been present.

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5. The lack of alterations along the Yakutsk-Magadan GORIZONT line was further substantiated by reexamining the photography of the Ust-Maya Troposcatter Station. This analysis showed that the previous identification of four Type IIA antennas is in error. The antennas originally installed at this station were two Type II antennas oriented [redacted] toward Ynykchanskiy Troposcatter Station and two Type IIA antennas, oriented 310 degrees, toward Yakutsk. No changes in antennas have been seen at this station. Thus, the Ust-Maya - Ynykchanskiy GORIZONT Troposcatter link is via Type II antennas, which is appropriate for the distance separating the two stations.

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6. Further inquiries should be directed to [redacted] Communications Branch, Missiles and Space Division, Imagery Exploitation Group, NPIC, code 143, [redacted]

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Chief, Missiles and Space Division
NPIC

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